Policy Regarding Fodder

64. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any policy regarding fodder shortage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Government has formulated the following policies and programmes to meet the fodder shortage:—

(1) Procurement of fodder from surplus pockets, within the State or from surplus State and supply on subsidised rates through Panchayat Samitis|Voluntary agencies etc.

(2) Establishment of cattle camps and fodder banks.

(3) Providing subsidy on transport of fodder, purchase of chaff cutters and developing common grazing land for fodder production.

(4) Distribution of fodder seeds at subsidised rates or free of cost or purchasing of fodder seed through interest-free loans.

(5) Distribution of fodder-minikit for popularising high yielding fodder varieties.

(6) Initiating silvi-pastoral and farmers' tree grower cooperative schemes and supply of saplings free of cost.

(7) Conservation of surplus fodder by making hay|silage etc.

(8) Organising fodder seed production through State Farms Corporation, Agricultural Universities, etc.

(9) Encouraging farmers to use chaffed, treated|fortified fodder to minimise losses and make the fodder more nutritious.

(10) Establishment of silvi-pastoral farms in marginal|sub-marginal|wastelands|community lands for which grant is provided through State Govt.|other agencies upto 50 per cent, limited to 1250|- per hectare subject to the provision of matching grant by State Government,|individual|other agencies. The scheme has been initiated by the Wasteland Development Board.

(11) The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) provide support to cooperative institutions for building a viable trade in quality fodder seed and setting up of seed processing and handling facilities by providing support restricted to actual need and where facilities are not existing.

(12) Seven Regional Stations have been established in different agro-climatic zones for quick transfer of fodder production technology.

(13) Two Central Fodder Seed Production Farms are at Hessarghatta (Karnataka) and Barpettas (Assam) to produce and supply seeds of improved varieties to State agencies and others for further multiplication and distribution.

(14) Provision of Central financial assistance for strengthening of State Fodder Seed Production Farms.

Benefits of green revolution

65. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Green Revolution has benefited only 3 per cent of big farmers owning 35 per cent of land under cultivation and small farmers who are about 62 per cent and own nearly 22 per cent land have been marginally affected; and

(b) if so, what are the steps Government propose to take to set things right?